UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 5

DATE:

November 19, 2010

SUBJECT:

Enforcement and compliance inspection report on Summit, Inc., Gary, Indiana

FROM:

Reza Bagherian, Environmental Engineer

Air Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Section (OH/MN)

TO:

Files

THRU:

William MacDowell, Section Chief

Air Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Section (OH/MN)

Inspection Date

November 9, 2010

Facility Name & Address

Summit, Inc. 6901 West Chicago Avenue Gary, Indiana 46406

Company SIC Code

5093, Scrap and Waste Materials

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Attendee

Reza Bagherian, Environmental Engineer

Summit, Inc. Contact Name, Title & Phone Number

Peter Coulopoulos, Plant Manager (219) 944-9749

Inspection

The inspection of Summit, Inc. (Summit) scrap yard facility stemmed from a citizen complaint received by the EPA on November 4, 2010. A concerned citizen (Complainant) who works for a trucking company near the Summit facility stated a scrap yard located, near his place of employment, on Chicago Avenue, in Gary, Indiana, emitted visible emissions into the air.

The Complainant also stated that recently the Gary Fire Department was brought in to put out a fire at the scrap yard. On November 9, 2010, Mr. Bagherian (EPA inspector) drove to the area at issue. The only scrap yard in the area was the Summit facility owned and operated by Peter Coulopoulos. The facility is located at 6901 W. Chicago Avenue, Gary, Indiana, which is about two hundred feet away from the Complainant's place of employment.

As the EPA inspector drove to the facility, he did not notice any visible emissions or unusual odor. The EPA inspector presented his credential to the security guard at Summit, and entered the property. He had a discussion with the owner of the facility and stated the reason for the EPA inspector's presence at the Summit facility, which was to address the complaint and determine Summit's compliance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act. The EPA inspector questioned Mr. Coulopoulos about the complaint, and whether any visible emission or foul odor has been noted at the facility in the last three months. Mr. Coulopoulos stated the only incident which caused visible emissions and odor was a fire at his facility which was started by an unknown individual on Friday night. Mr. Coulopoulos described the fire as an act of vandalism. The Gary Fire Department was called in to put out the fire, and the Fire Department was able to do so by the Noon of the following day.

During the walkthrough, there was an operating scrap shredder at the facility. Emissions from the shredder were controlled with a cyclone, and visible emissions were not being emitted from the source. Summit had obtained an air permit from Indiana Department of Environmental Management to operate the scrap shredder. The company had also acquired an environmental consultant, Environmental Process Technologies, Inc., to handle its environmental affairs.

Because the investigation showed no violations of the Clean Air Act requirements, the case was closed and Complainant notified of the results. While at the facility, the EPA inspector stated that if any information provided to the EPA was to be considered confidential business information, Summit should notify the EPA. Summit did not claim confidentiality on any information provided to the EPA.